



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
October 20, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

*Due to the COVID-19 health pandemic, the Long Lake City Council attended the meeting telephonically pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.021.*

**Present:** Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Tom Skjaret, and Deirdre Kvale

**Staff Present:** City Administrator: Scott Weske (in person); Public Works Director: Sean Diercks (telephonically); Fire Chief: James Van Eyll (telephonically); and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller (in person)

**Absent:** Council: Jahn Dyvik and Michelle Jerde (both with prior notice)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS – LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES**

Mayor Miner noted that Council member Dyvik was scheduled to have surgery and asked residents to keep him and his family in their thoughts and prayers as he recovers.

Mayor Miner shared the following comments and updates:

The Economic Development Authority had met prior to the regular Council meeting to discuss the possibility of acquiring some State-owned land behind Public Works.

On October 2, 2020 members of the Long Lake Fire Department saved the life of a heart attack victim.

A positive story recently aired on Channel 5 about the Long Lake Fire Department bringing Halloween to driveways in exchange for Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) donations. Fire Chief Van Eyll introduced Maria Veach and asked her to explain a bit more about this event.

Maria Veach, LLFD Slow Burn Brigade, stated that her thought had been to find a way to bring joy to people in the area and also raise funds for an AED purchase. She reported that they are offering a 4-hour time slot which allows for 36 spots for sign ups to have firefighters in a fire truck distribute candy to trick or treaters at the end of their driveways, and noted that their goal had been to raise \$1,500. She explained that they are already at goal with the sign ups, there is currently a wait list, and the event is on track for more than doubling their financial goal because they have already raised \$3,100 which means they will be able purchase two AEDs. She expressed her appreciation to the large group of fire wives and the Slow Burn Brigade that have worked on this event. She noted that if this goes well, they have already talked about having a similar event for Christmas.

Council member Kvale asked how the event would be set up.

Ms. Veach indicated that they will have three trucks making a total of 36 stops. She stated that they will stop for 10 minutes at each location and have factored commute time into the schedule.

Fire Chief Van Eyll noted that he was recently contacted by the Orono Lions Club who indicated that they are also interested in donating to this event.

Administrator Weske played the clip of the Channel 5 news story about the event.

### **APPROVE AGENDA**

*A motion was made by Skjaret, seconded by Kvale, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all by roll call.*

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve Minutes of October 6, 2020 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of October 6, 2020 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Adopt Resolution No. 2020-35 Conditionally Appointing Candidate Chris Bennett to the Position of Paid On-Call Firefighter for the City of Long Lake Fire Department
- E. Accept the Resignation of Firefighter Derek Lee from the Long Lake Fire Department
- F. Approve an Application for Exempt Permit for the Church of St. George to Conduct Gambling Activities Including Raffles During the Saturday, November 21, 2020 'Holiday LaPetite Boutique' Event

*A motion was made by Skjaret, seconded by Kvale, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all by roll call.*

### **OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

No one was in attendance to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

### **Public Hearing: Certification of Unpaid Delinquent City Utility Accounts for Assessment/Collection**

Weske explained that on an annual basis, the City has the ability to certify to Hennepin County any unpaid or delinquent utility accounts, to include a 4% interest rate and a \$2.50 administration fee which is a pass-through fee from the County. He added that State statute requires a public hearing be held regarding certification and the assessment roll proposed to be adopted. He noted that if the accounts are paid in full by November 20, 2020, they would be removed from the assessment roll. The assessments must be certified to Hennepin County by November 30, 2020. He stated that he had not received any written appeals to the proposed assessment of unpaid utility accounts.

Council member Kvale asked if anyone had been removed from the roll since it was received by Council.

Weske indicated he believed one household had dropped off and as of today, the total amount due for accounts to be certified is \$6,045.19.

Mayor Miner asked if the quantity of unpaid utility accounts was typical.

Weske noted that this year's number of delinquent accounts is actually quite good compared to prior years for both quantity and the dollar amount.

Mayor Miner opened the public hearing at 6:49 pm.

There being no public comment, Mayor Miner closed the public hearing at 6:50 pm.

*A motion was made by Skjaret, seconded by Kvale, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-36 for the certification and collection of delinquent 2020 water and sewer utility service charges, recycling program fees, storm water charges, legal pass through and general service charges. Ayes: all by roll call.*

**Well House #1 Permanent Standby 150kw 480-volt Generator With a 400-amp Automatic Transfer Switch (CARES Act Funding Eligible Expense)**

Public Works Director Diercks reported that Weske had asked him to consider and come up with a list of things that were needed, but not included in the budget, and would help employees work remotely if the pandemic worsens and there is a need for a full quarantine within their department. He stated that he had a few options that he had considered but he felt that the proposed generator represents a practical need and not just a want like some of the other options he had given thought to. Diercks explained the current procedure for restarting the well during a power outage and confirmed that the proposed generator would eliminate much of the need for in person work to get the well up and running again.

Weske added that the City had received around \$134,000 in CARES Act Funding and has currently spent a bit over \$40,000. He believed there is about \$60,000 or \$65,000 still available, and the City may have to pay the difference between the final project cost and remaining CARES Act funds.

Diercks noted that he believed staff had taken another look at the numbers and the project would be completely funded through CARES Act funding. He answered questions from the Council related to the proposed generator equipment and stated that the plans would be to complete installation by the end of the year.

*A motion was made by Skjaret, seconded by Kvale, to approve the do not exceed amount of \$80,000 to purchase and install a 150kw 480-volt diesel powered standby generator with a 400-amp automatic transfer switch for Well House #1 at 1964 Orchard Lane as CARES Act funding eligible expense. Ayes: all by roll call.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**LLFD Staffing Update** - Fire Chief Van Eyll stated that they lost one firefighter to St. Michael/Albertville. He stated that they have brought one new firefighter on board and have one more that is out for a background check.

**LLFD Trick or Treat Event** – Council member Kvale commended Chief Van Eyll and Ms. Veach for the upcoming Halloween event. She stated that she thinks it was a great idea and is impressed with the publicity that they have put together for it.

**Thanks to Public Works Director** – Council member Kvale expressed her appreciation to Public Works Director Diercks for finding a useful lasting way to spend the CARES Act funding for the City.

**Mention of Early Voting** – Council member Skjaret noted that early voting has begun and thanked staff for their work to help make that process go more smoothly.

**Public Works Updates** - Diercks stated that the new holiday tree was planted in Holbrook Park on October 19, 2020. He gave thanks to Otten Bros. because they sold the City the tree at 50% of its cost and planted it for free. He also added that Public Works is working on leaf pick-up in preparation for street sweeping which will happen on October 29 and 30.

**Election Updates** - City Clerk Moeller gave an update on early voting and noted that it is moving along fast and furious. She stated that they are encouraging everyone who has not already received a ballot by mail and who wants to vote early to not wait to contact the City because it will be more difficult to get appointments next week. She explained that it has been an intense process and noted that not counting the 18 or so ballots that came in today, so far 340 absentee ballots have been accepted from Long Lake voters. Moeller emphasized that there will be great precautions in place for election day for people who will be voting in person.

**ADJOURN**

*Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the Council meeting by general consent at 7:14 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske  
City Administrator